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Applicant: James K. Falbo et al.
Assignee: Numerical Technologies, Inc.
Title: SHAPE-BASED GEOMETRY ENGINE TO PERFORM SMOOTHING
AND OTHER LAYOUT BEAUTIFICATION OPERATIONS
Serial No.: 10/040,055 File Date: December 31, 2001
Examiner: Yelena Rossoshek Art Unit: 2825
Docket No.: NTI-030(757)

Date: January 5, 2004

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE FIRST OFFICE ACTIONInitial Comments

Claims 1-54 are pending in the present application. Claims 22-55 are objected to because of a numbering error. Claims 1-10, 12-32, 34-36, and 44-54 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,523,162 (Agrawal). Claims 11, 33, 37-43 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 22-55 are amended in this paper to correct the numbering error. Claims 44, 46, and 51 are further amended to clarify certain limitations.